estimated that quality deterioration and loss in value that take place are about 25 to 30% in some fruits and vegetables, due to inadequacy of post harvest infrastructure and perishability of the produce. However, since substantial quantities of fruits and vegetables are utilised in house-hold and unorganised sector for preservation etc., the net unutilised quantity may not exceed 5%.

(b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries has formulated various plan schemes for implementation during the 8th Plan period for the development of fruits and vegetables processing industries, the details of which are given in the statement (*see* below). Similar schemes are proposed to be continued in the 9th Five Year Plan.

Statement

Details of the Plan Schemes Formulated for Implementation during the Eighth Plan Period

S. No.	Name of the Plan Schemes
1.	Scheme for Food Processing and Training Centres in Rural Areas.
2.	Scheme for Assistance to State Government Undertakings and Cooperatives for Establishing or Upgrading of Fruit and Vegetable Processing facilities.
3.	Scheme for strengthening backward linkages for the Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries.
4.	Scheme for Development of infrastructure for Mushroom cultivation and processing.
5.	Scheme for development and processing of hops.
6.	Scheme for generic advertising of processing food and for providing marketing assistance.
7.	Scheme for research and development in food and vegetable processing.
8.	Assistance for infrastructure for fruit and vegetable products (From 1993-94).

Proposal to change Food Products Order

502. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change Food Products Order as reported in Economic Times dated 9th June, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons for the change; and

(c) how will it be ensured that synthetics used are not health hazards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) The Government has recently amended Fruit Products Order of 1955 and notified in the Gazette vide S.O.No. 1530 dated 24th June, 1997.

(b) The amendments were necessitated by the need of the processed food industry to promote innovation in product mix, ensure quality and good manufacturing practices, cut down procedural delays and redundancy, and protect consumers' interest.

(c) Only those synthetic additives are allowed to be used which are found to be non-hazardous to health.

Assistance to cooperatives for promotion of FPI in Maharashtra

503. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minster of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended financial assistance to the cooperatives for promotion of food

processing industries in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and

(c) the role these cooperative have played in the promotion of food processing sector in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 80.75 lakhs, Rs. 109.49 lakhs and Rs. 160.78 lakhs was extended to the cooperatives in Maharashtra under the Plan Schemes of this Ministry covering Fruit and Vegetables Processing, Meat & Poultry Processing and Fisheries Sectors during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 respectively.

(c) The activities undertaken by these cooperatives for the promotion of food processing in Maharashtra *inter alia* include setting up of post harvest handling facilities, establishment of an integrated project for poultry production and processing and creation of infrastructural facilities for preservation and processing of fish.

Government organization carrying Pepsi advertisements

504. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minster of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government organisation—including police stations in Delhi—are carrying Pepsi advertisements;

(b) if so, who permitted display of these advertisements; and

(c) what are the terms and conditions of this"arrangements"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Autonomy to select PSUs

505. DR. B.B. DUTTA:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to give more autonomy to selected nine navratna public sector enterprises?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for selecting the navratna;

(d) whether the boards of navratnas will also be restructured to induct eminent non-official part time directors; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government have granted greater autonomy and operational freedom to nine selected public sector enterprises. The criteria for selecting the enterprises included factors like size, performance, nature of activity, future prospects etc.

(d) and (e) Yes Sir, for the selection of non-official part-time Directors, a Search Committee has been set up.

Slump in Industrial growth

506. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minster of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that industrial growth during 1996-97 slumped to just around 7% as against 12% during the